from the day I first became acquainted with her—the day of that blessed blizzard. I'd like to know who could help loving her, she is so good and so intelligent, to say nothing of her beauty. And to-day she has made me the happiest man in the world by confessing that she is not indifferent to me, and is willing to become my wife. So now it only remains for you to give us your approval and sour benediction. I have an income of \$4,000 a year over and above my come of \$4,000 a year over and above my earnings. For the rest, you know me pretty thoroughly, and can judge of my eligibility

What answer could I give her?
Putting aside altogether, as I was bound
to do, the selfish consideration that her
marriage would deprive us of the treasure and the blessing of our old age, and leave our home desolate and forsaken, could I in honor, could I in justice to the man, permit him to make Miriam his wife, without first him to make Miriam his wife, without first imparting to him so much as I myself knew concerning her past life and her dead personality? But the latter-was a thing which I was persuaded I had no manner of right to do. The secrets of her past she had herself forgotten. No other human being had a shadow of a claim to learn them. She was not Louise Massarte. She had never even heard of Louise Massarte. Louise Massarte was abolished utterly. Louise Massarte was abolished utterly. Therefore, to identify her with Louise Massarte, to saddle her with the responsibility of the dead weman's name and history, would be to do her a most grievous and un-

warrantable wrong.

No, I could not, I must not, tell Fairchild the story of Louise Massarte's traus-Miriam Benary. Yet how could I say, "Yes, you may marry her," and keep that story to myself? What excuse could I invent wherewith to ease my conscience, if I practiced such deceit upon him in an issue that involved his dearest and most vital interests? Suppressio veri, suggave my consent to their marriage, while allowing him to remain in error respecting the truth about his bride, truth which, if make known to him, might radically modify

his intentions.

But, furthermore, and on the other hand, suppose I should say in reply to his demand:
"No, you cannot marry her;" what right
had I to say that? What reason could I allege in justification of my refusal? Not the actual reason; for that would be to tell him the story which, I had made up my mind, I must not and should not tell. And if I alleged a fictitious reason, I should sim-ply jump from the devil into the deep sea; from a lie to a falsehood. These years from a lie to a falsehood. These young peo-ple loved each other. Therefore, to interpose impediments to their union would be to impose upon each of them endless un-merited pain. What right had I to do that? It was a vexed and difficult quandary in which I found myself. There were strong arguments for and strong arguments against er course out of it.

"Well, Dr. Benary, you do not answer me," Fairchild interrupted my meditations by remarking.

by remarking.
"I cannot answer you. You must give
me time to consider—to consult my sister—
to make up my mind."
We had been strolling together, he and I, up and down the beach. Now we returned to the hotel. Josephine was scated on the Yerandah, near the entrance.

"Ah, brother, at last!" she said, starting up the moment she caught sight of me. "I have been waiting for you."

I accompanied her to her room,

CHAPTER XL.

"Well," she began, as soon as the door was closed behind us, "the worst has hap pened, as I suppose you know. Mr. Fairchild has spoken to you, has he not?" "Ah? Then you, too, know about it?" I

"Miriam has just told me the whole

"What does she say?" "That Mr. Fairchild has asked her to be his wife. That she loves him and has ac- serpent. cepted him-conditionally, that is, upon your approval."

"She says she loves him?" "She says she loves him with all her heart. She says she is as happy as the day is long. She doesn't dream that you will have any hesitation about consenting."

For a little while we were silent. At last, "Well, brother, what are you going to do?"

That is what I wish to advise with you "Have you given no answer to Mr. Fair-

"I have said to him that I must take time for consideration and for consultation with

"Well, it is a most difficult dilemma." "But you have got to make up your mind them in suspense.'

one way or the other. It is cruel to keep "I know that, my dear sister."

"Do you mean to say yes or no?"
"That's just it. That's just the difficulty."
"But it is a difficulty which must be seted. You will have to say one of the two."
"How dare I say yes? What right have "They love each other. It is their life

happiness which is at stake."

Exactly, exactly. Therefore, if I say no it will be to condemn them both to great misery, and misery which they have done nothing to deserve." "It certainly will. It will break Miriam's

heart. And what reason can you give tor refusing? It will be all the harder for them, because it will seem to them so un-reasonable, so unjustifiable. They will feel that it is an act of wanton cruelty on the part of a selfish old man."
"I know it, I know it," I groaned. "And vet, on the other hand, if I say yes-

"If you say yes, you will assure to them the greatest happiness their hearts can deaire."
"But how dare I say yes, without sharing with Fairchild the secret of Miriam's past?"

"Surely, brother, you cannot purpose do-No, indeed. But without doing that,

how can I honorably permit him to make her his wife." "It is a choice of evils. You must choose the lesser of the two."

"Precisely. But the trouble is to de-termine which is the lesser of the two-de-

Forgive me, my dear brother, for reminding you of it; but had you listened to my warning in the first place, this painful alternative would never have come about." "What could I do? You yourself agreed with me that I could not forbid Fairehild the house. And so long as he had the run of the house, how could I prevent him and Miriam meeting? And meeting constantly, as they did, I suppose it was inevitable that There's no use reproaching me, no use regretting the past. What was bound to happen happened. That is the whole truth of it."

"I did not intend to reproach you brother. I merely wished to say that since you, in a manner, have been responsible for the state of things that has come to passsince, in other words, you neglected to take state of things from coming to pass-it seems as it you were now under a moral obligation not to stand between them and their happiness. The time for action was the outset. Since you have allowed things

to go so far, it seems as if you had no right to forbid their going farther." That is to say, you counsel me to con-"I do not see how you can do otherwise

now. It is too late for you to step in and separate them." "And the point of honor? I am to sup press the truth? I am to stand still, and suffer Fairchild to make Miriam his wife, in ignorance of certain facts which, if -he were aware of them, might totally change

"As I said before it is a choice of evils. That negative deceit does not seem to me so had as the alternative of positive cruelty. Besides, after all, is it not Miriam's right to have you to do anything but stand sside, with hands off, and let her choose her hus-band without interference? She could not wish a better husband than Fairchild. No

"What you suggest is Jesuitry, pure and "There are emergencies in which Jesuitry is the only feasible policy."
"I do not see how I can do otherwise than

follow your advice. Where is Miriam "She was in her room when I left her."
"Will you find her and send her to me?
Or, rather, bring her. You must be present, too. Josephine went off. In three minutes she returned, leading Miriam by the hand. Miriam's cheeks and throat turned crimson

as she saw me, and she dropped her eyes, and stood still, waiting.
"My dear-," I called, holding out my She came to me and put her arms around my neck, and buried her face in my shoul-

der.
"So this young rascal of a sculptor has asked you to be his wife?" I began.
"Yes," she murmured, scarcely louder "Yes," she than a whisper. "Well, what answer have you given

"I said I loved him." "Ah? You said you loved him! But about becoming his wife—did you say yes

"I said he must ask you."
"Me! But it isn't I whom he has solicited in marriage. Why should he ask "I told him I could not marry without "And suppose I should withhold my con-

"I should be very unhappy." "But I don't see what my consent mat-ters, after all. It is for you to decide. You are of full age. I have no right to forbid you. Now, then, what are you going to "I said I would be his wife, unless you

wished otherwise."
"Well, I suppose you must keep your
word. Go fetch the rogue hither."
She hugged me and kissed me; and said "Oh, my darling uncle, you are the best man in the world," and then she began to cry; and then to laugh through her tears. And at last she went off to seek out her lover, and to convey to him the joyful idings.

They were married on the 15th day of er, and that same afternoon they set sail for Havre aboard the steamship La Toursine, to pass six months abroad. Anxiously did Josephine and I count the days that must elapse before the post would bring us their first letter; and little did we dream what ominous news that letter would con-

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A DISENCHANTED FROG.

How the Batrachian Escaped Being Devoured by a Ruttlesnake.

Mrs. Ripley, a Southern lady, author of "From Flag to Flag," was, on one occasion, riding in an ambulance on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, when her husband pointed out a huge rattlesnake, coiled, with head erect, forked tongue and glistening

eyes.

He was following, with almost imperceptible motion, the fitful efforts of a large frog, which was vainly trying to get out of his

way. The snake had fastened his eyes on the eyes of the frog; the poor creature could not even wink; he could not escape the fascinating gaze. Turning his body, though not his head, he would make a pitiful little squeak and a desperate effort to jump; he learned then, if he never knew it before, that a frog cannot jump backward. Every motion he made was accompanied

by a corresponding motion of the wily serpent. So intent were they that we alighted from the vehicle, and Mr. Dodda stood near with pistol in hand. Neither the snake nor the frog seemed to be aware

of our presence.

At last the head of the snake slowly approached nearer and nearer its victim. The poor frog gave one despairing croak, that sounded almost human in its agony, and leaped into the distended jaws of the snake. t the same instant Mr. Dodds fired and with such accurate aim that the vertebra was struck close to the head. The jaws suddenly relaxed and tell open, and out sprang It ever a frog made haste to get

away, that frog was the one.

He was out of his enchantment, and out of sight in a moment. The 13 rattles that tipped the tail of the snake remained in my ession for many years.

A FEMALE BOOK AGENT'S POCKET. Convenient Receptacle That Aids Her Business Wenderfully. New York Sun.1

Female book agents who know their business have a clever arrangement for concealing in their skirts their sample book and all other traces of their business. Their skirt is slit at one side as though for a huge pocket, but instead of a pocket attached to the skirt which would inevitably bulge out or pull the skirt down when loaded with a heavy book, there is a sort of bag hung be-neath the dress from a strap that passes over the shoulder.

A yery large book slipped through the slit in the skirt into the bag leaves no outward trace, and with her implements thus almost anywhere, no matter how close the scrutiny of bell boy or servant.

NO NECESSITY FOR APPEAL. He Was Defeated in a Law Case Yet Perfectly Satisfied.

Detroit Free Press.] "Let's see," he said as he met a friend at the postoffice yesterday, "didn't you have a lawsuit the other day?" "I did."

"Who beat you?" "The other man." "And are you going to carry it up?"
"Oh, no. I settled it."

"After court adjourned I gave him the all-firedest licking a man ever got, and I don't want to be mean and appeal the case besides."

ARTIFICIAL BOARDS.

A Swiss Invention Which is Cheap, Dur-

able and Incombustible. A Swiss inventor has perfected a method of making artificial boards, and is advocating their use in building. They are made of a mixture of plaster of paris and reeds, pressed into shape by hydraulic pro-cess. The material has the advantage of incombustibility and lightness, and will resist the warping action of atmospheric



doubt, my unregenerate brethren, that you will be greatly benefited and strengthened by my stay among you.

Chorus of Unregenerate Brethren (with emphasis)—You bet!—Life.

CLARA BELLE'S CHAT.

Women's Clubs Springing Up Like Mushrooms at the Metropolis.

SOROSIS AND ITS SUCCESSORS. How the Imitation Aristocrats Are Whiling the Hours Away.

DOINGS OF A BRILLIANT BARONESS

(CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.) NEW YORK, May 18 .- "What, my dear, going out again?"

"And pray why not, sir? There is a meeting of the home committee at the club. But never mind, if you will stay at home this afternoon, I'll take you with me next Thursday, which is 'gentlemen's day' at the Blue Stocking "

If New York society has not yet reached this point, let no misogynist lay the flattering unction to his soul that such a point will not be reached, and that very speedily too. Women's clubs in this big town are increasing at the rate of a half dozen a year, and their scope covers every object that is known in feminine society. There is the social, literary, religious, musical, sewing, charitable, athletic, industrial, cooking, art and the directory man only knows what others. There are over 50 such clubs for women now established in New York, Some like the Sorosis are hale, hearty and prosperous, while many of the others are struggling through a precarrous and rather un-healthy babyhood, beset by many perils, a real Baron. At the play the Baroness is and weighted down by a bewildering host of juvenile tribulations, such as no real infant, outside of a museum, even managed to survive.

GROWTH OF SOROSIS. The oldest woman's club in the world is the Sorosis. It has grown stronger year by year during the 24 years of its existence. Before Sorosis was, established the wildest dreams of the fair sex did not include a club for women. After it was born others soon came to bear it company. To form a club for women was found to be a comparatively easy matter after all, and pluck joined with

money and social influence were enthusi-

astically enlisted in support of the move-

Mrs. D. G. Croly and 14 other clever and practical women who had already made reputations in the fields usually given over to men, formed the club partly as an experiment and partly to prove to the male jour-nalists of New York that their sisters of the pen had spirit and ability and fine inde-pendence. Their success is a matter of his-tory. Soon after Sorosis came her sister, the Boston Woman's Club, the second in the world. After that the brood increased with prodigious truitfulness, and were all
of the progeny alive to-day there would be
more women's than men's clubs recorded on
the back pages of the city directory.

The Pot Luck Club is one of the best
known of the social sisterhoods. It is de-

signed to comfort and extoll the virtues of those housekeepers who have received unkind criticism from their lords and masters At the Pot Luck meetings certain members contribute evidence of their culinary skill for the delectation of their sisters, and woe be it to the luckless husband whose sneers have not been borne out by the judgment of this somewhat captions jury.

SOME OTHER CLUBS. There are both male and female Pot Luckers, and both sides of the controversies re-ceive impartial consideration. But happily Pot Luckers as a rule have kindly dispositions, and disputes are rare. Among the best known members are "Jennie June," Bichard Henry Stoddard, the poet; Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Josquin Miller, Edmund Clarence Stedman, Mrs. John Bigelow and Montague Marks. The meetings are delightful treats, and the outsider who is for-tunate enough to be favored with an invitahe has ever had before.

"Mrs. John Sherwood's Club" is the name ommonly given to the Causerie de Lundi. It would be difficult to classify this Ashion. ble organization any more aptly. Mrs. Sherwood is the President, and the club dis cusses the same sort of topics that Mrs. Sherwood has been kind enough to discuss in the public press for these many years back. Women and women's doings are talked about, discursively, etiquette and rules for deportment are laid down didacti-cally and the great world of society is saved

regularly once a fortnight, or oftener when the club meets more frequently.

The Athletic Club, which is composed of stalwart, healthy and wealthy young women from Murray Hill, Staten Island and other fashionable localities, is an outgrowth of the Recreation Club. The latter organization has no permanent quarters. It meets once a month for business in the drawing room of one of the members and again on warr Wadnaday magning for every Wednesday morning for recreation. The members take their recreation in walking. Central Park, Harlem, Washington Heights, and even New Jersey are tramped over, laughed over and chatted over by th prettiest, freshest faced, strongest limbed ot of young Amazons that the town of the

Knickerbockers has ever seen. LADIES AS ATHLETES. The Athletic Club grows from the organization, and like all aftermaths is much more pretentious than its predecessor. It is building a clubhouse with a handsomely ap pointed gymnasium, and all the belongings of the gymnast's craft. There the members will race and wrestle, swing on long ringed ropes suspended from the ceiling, "skin the cat" on the horizontal bar, broaden their shoulders between the parallels, raise great lumps on their arms in the dumb bell department, and polish off their circus cours training by having a round with soft gloves and the sand bag, and a scientific bout with the foils and the fencing master. The modish young woman of the next generation will not be a club woman, but she will be able to settle her disputes much in the same way that clubmen do their's now when the provocation and the occasion

seems to require it.

Besides these there are art and minor literary clubs almost without number. The history of many of these is too well known to need even a passing mention. Among the best known charitable and industrial Lazarus. Each of these does a noble and benevolent work. This partial list would be grossly incomplete were some of the many eccentric clubs left unmentioned. There is Hereditary, Clio, Meridian, Science of Life, Spiritualist, Germ of Reason, Struggle for Truth, Socialist, Communist, Sociologic and the Woman's True Friend. Queer names. Yes, and queer objects they have too. If men may have their Lambs, Thirteens and Growlers, why not women their Germs of Reason and Struggle for Truth?

IMITATION ARISTOCRATS. What are the Fifth avenue pretentials do ing? Perhaps you don't know even what a pretential is. Well, that is a new name for a New York imitation aristocrat. It is be-tween season's now, and social duliness reigns. The most notable commotion is for Martha Washington tea sets, and so determined is Mme. Elite to have a replica that orders are being made from magazine cuts. Mrs. Alexander Hamilton has a genuine colonial sugar basket, and reasonbly enough declines to loan it, for once the silversmith had it in his possession the stock-would flood the city, and the dupli-cates belittle the original. Still the demand paintains itself, and whoever can reproduce he coveted basin, cream jug or teapot, can have his own price in exchange.

In the way of household whims, Mrs.

William Astor has an Esquimaux corner. This quaintest of interior angles is made by hanging three rods across a corner so that when strung with animal rugs the niche is completely fur lined. There is a rug on the floor, and one or more on the seat or divan,

and when the portiers are drawn back the

effect is charming. This snuggery may be made in black bear, leopard skin, or white bear, but it is no triffe, for unless the rugs are genuine the house and everybody in it will be in a moulting condition. Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, now abroad, has in her New York house one of these corner effects, after the Turkish, richly hung, and lit write iswaled learn. The wife of lit with a jeweled lantern. The wile of Dr. Harvey Dew also has one perfumed with Oriental incense of ravishing sweetness. Here the beautiful girl friends of the hostess who come up from Alabama, Mississippi and the Carolinas to visit are freezently as a many admirant control of the carolinas and the carolinas to visit are freezently in the carolinas to visit are quently seen, each with as many admirers as the snuggery will accommodate.

A NEW USE FOR CARDS. It has come to a point now when the height of elegant haste is shown in visiting card correspondence. Mrs. W. W. Astor, it is said, answers more than half her mail on calling cards, beginning the communica-tion on the face of the card, and in the third person, and reaching a finish before the space on the back gives out. The idea is really not a bad one, for too many letters are sent and far too much written in them. of course, small envelopes are used, and the message stamped and sealed. Apropos of cards, do you know that New York's swellest ministers send out three-ply bits of pasteboard announcing their coming? Indeed, yes, and the announcement is timely. as "not at home" is construed into a dubious compliment. These rospel lights have their own idea about the wording of the cards which with the elimination of the sacred title would pass for an informal re-

At the theaters and in the park a woman of blonde beauty has been attracting much attention throughout the season. She is the Baroness Blanc, and the very big and handsome young man who forms one of the large group of masculines that is ever about the fair creature is the husband, Monsieur le Baron. Folks used to doubt his right to a single occasion. She sits invariably in the front chair of a box, gazing interestedly at the performance while the curtain is up, and over the audience between the acts. A man of some sort is always whispering into her ear. She smiles occasionally, and taps him with her fan when he is especially clever. The woman's face is not surprisingly beautiful. It is only striking because its complexion is somewhat heightened by rouge, and the hair above it is bleached to a brilliant yellow. Her figure is slight and stylish, and her costumes are unexception-

A BRILLIANT BARONESS.

On pleasant afternoons the baroness drives a pair of chestout cobs in a phaeton out over the park. At her feet lies a huge mastiff. A groom perches behind her. Sometimes there is a man at her side. Evalways urges her ponies to a spanking gait and whirls by all the lumbering hacks and

doubtedly depleting to the purse. She cuts the greatest dash of any young woman in New York, and besides enjoying all the ex-travagant embellishments that go with daily and nightly entertainment her establishment is noted for its luxury and prodigality. In her house on Fifth avenue the best of sup-pers, the best of wines, and the best of all good cheer find generous dispensation. In view of this, someone asked the que tion the other night, how Monsieur le Baron -with an income that might supply his household with its orchids and gaslight, but nothing more of its richness—managed to keep such a bright eye and ruddy cheek over the dazzling life his wife is leading nation. him through. Such questions as these in New York are never squarely answered. CLARA BELLE.

A WOMAN TO AVOID.

She Can Shoot the Cork Out of a Bottle at Twenty Paces.

New York Sun.1 A self-acting six-shooter can hardly be especially when its chambers are filled with deadly 32-caliber cartridges; yet that is one of the most prominent articles in the bed-

room of a Brooklyn woman. "It serves several good purposes," she said the other day to an astonished friend. 'It is a weapon of defense against burglars, and a good one in my hands, for I can shoot the cork out of a bottle at 20 paces. It also keeps my servants from disturbing my things. They won't go near it for the world, and all I have to do to keep them away is to place it in plain sight right on my table or bureau. They will walk around the room a dozen times rather than approach within three feet of my revolver.

HE WANTS HIS NEWS FRESH.

Greenland Governor Gets His Papers Once a Year and Rends One a Day. The Governor of the Danish colony of Greenland receives by the ship which brings him his annual supplies, copies of the daily papers of Copenhagen for the year preceding. He arranges these papers in the order of their dates, and then quietly and calmly reads a paper each day, just as though it was fresh from the press. He is sometimes strongly tempted to peer into futurity by reading some papers ahead when he comes across interesting news; but he resists the temptation, no matter how anxious he is to know the fate of sommeasure. One day's paper for each day is his rule; and so at the end of the year he is thoroughly familiar with the news of the

HIGH ART IN OHIO.

A Canton Girl Climbs a Tree to Have Her Picture Taken.

Canton (O.) Democrat. 1 Yesterday at 4:30 P. M. the outer air reporter saw a fascinating and novel sight n the hillside woods, just beyond the Union Brewery. It was where the underbush was the thickest and most luxuriant and where the dog-wood blossoms made the trees look like billows of white wood. There stood an amateur photograph artist with his camera, and there about 15 feet distant, up a tree, was one of our Canton belles. She was standing in the midst of the snowy bloom of a dog-wood tree, on a limb about 10 feet from the ground, having her photograph taken. It was a sweet and ng picture, when our reporter got his first glimpse.

He Meant it for a Compliment ewiston Journal.]

Mrs. Livermore humorously tells this about herself: She went to a town in Maine to deliver a lecture. A young minister, who felt greatly his importance in having to introduce so large a light, announced her in these words: "Ladies and gentleman, you have all heard of the illustrious man across the water, so beloved by his people, and who is known by the sobriquet of the 'Grand Old Man.' I have now the pleasure of intro-ducing to you a lady beloved in Boston, and known there as the 'grand old woman'!" Did ever a committee man say anything quite so malapropos?

A Meeting of the Anti-Docking Club.



President-The neighs have it.-Life.

DANCING SINFUL

Rev. George Hodges Discusses the Question of Amusements.

WHAT IS WICKED AND WHAT PURE

Must be Left to the Discrimination of the Individual.

OUR HOMES MUST BE MADE ATTRACTIVE CWRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH. Amusements fall into three classes Some are confessedly evil; they are bad all the way through. We put them out of the

case at once. Some are confessedly innocent; nobody objects to them. We put them out of the case also. But other amusements are under certain conditions good, and under other conditions bad. It is with these doubtful amusements, accordingly, that we have to deal. Most people would agree to put into this doubtful class, and mark with the sign of question, card playing, dancing and attendance at the theater. Everybody will allow that circumstances may be imagined under which all three of these may be harmful and sinful, while under other circumstances, which most people can imagine, they may all be wholly free from evil. Here enters the duty of discrimina-

don.

But whose duty is this? Who shall discriminate, the Christian or the church? The question concerns the very nature and province of the Christian religion.

The Christian religion differs from al the title, but that has been settled. He is a real Baron. At the play the Baroness is other religions of the race, and is higher and particularly conspicuous for her exquisite tollets, each one of which figures only upon a single occasion. She sits invariably in within out. It begins at the heart. It does not deal with the small details of life, saying thou shalt do that thing in this way, and this thing in that way. But it states cer-tain great truths and puts upon our own selves the responsibility of applying them. Christianity does not forbid slavery; it contents itself with teaching a blessed principle, which, when once men understand it,

MAKES SLAVERY IMPOSSBLE. Christianity does not forbid the drinking liquor, but it establishes such principle as that, when man learns this, drunkennes is driven out. Christianity does not forbid any one to go to a theater, or to play at cards, or to dance. Christ leaves the matter of discrimination in these things to us. The Church is wise to be content, following he Master, to teach such great truths about Sometimes there is a man at her side. Everybody turns to look at her, for her hair gleams in the sun, her hat is a wonder of gorgeous millinery, and she handles her reins and whip like a thoroughbred. She the sacredness of time, about the sanctity of conduct for himself.

And, if you think of it, you will see that

always urges her pointer to and whirls by all the lumbering hacks and barouches on the road with a great showing of disdain and jingling harnesses.

In the theaters, the park, and cafes, the baroness is ever brilliant to the eye and unbarouches of the purse. She cuts govern them like animals. Men must be convinced. They must be touched at the convinced. They must not be forced but the transfer of the purse. Their will must not be forced but the convinced. persuaded, not worsted but won. And just this, the Christian religion, in exact propor-tion as it follows the mind of the Muster,

endeavors to accomplish.

Thus, I believe, should the Christian teacher approach to-day the subject of amusements. May I dance? May I attend the theater? May I play cards? People are all the time asking the question, and the answer is—yes and no. The questioner must answer his own question. Everybody must discharge his own duty of di-

YOU MUST DECIDE.

YOU MUST DECIDE.

If these amusements agree with you; if they are for the health of your soul, as good food is for the health of your body; if they do not harm, but help you, choose them. You know that you have no right to waste your time and no right to injure your health. You know what manner of men God would have us be—not foolish, or frivolous, or useless, but having a high and correct purpose in life, resolutely determined for His nonor and glory, and for the good of His honor and glory, and for the good of our fellowmen to make the most of ourselves, realizing our responsible position with heaven above and hell beneath. You know what the Lord wants everybody to put first, before every other duty, before every other engagement, before every pleasure—the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. You know what kind of an earnest, purposeful, self-sacrificing life, our Lord Jesus Christ came and lived and died that we might

live. You know the glory and the blessing of a high ideal, a pure character, an unstaine conscience. You know that amusement belongs to the side of life, is not of surpassing consequence, ought not to enter very obtrusively one way or the other with the ethics of earnest men, belongs more to the childhood than to the strength, manhood and maturity of life. And, knowing this the duty of discrimination ought not to be SO VERY DIFFICULT.

Try this test. At night look back upon the day. Count up the moments spent in amusement, and if you can honestly thank God for all the pleasure of the day, you have drawn the line of discrimination upo the righteous side. But all the amusements of the world are

social. They take two or three more. And so you have somebody else to think of besides yourself. So comes in another ele-ment in this duty of discrimination. You have to consider the influence of your ex-

we are too much in the habit, I am afraid, of thinking of this matter of example in only one way. We regard it from the side of danger. It would be better if we considered it more often from the side of opportunity. It is true that what may not harm us may harm our brother, and so we must give it up for his sake. But isn't it true on the other side that social life is an time from egg-laying to maturity is only immense opportunity for good? May not about two weeks. Most of us have studied

amusement possibly mean duty?
Suppose that Christian people were to keep out of the world altogether — what keep out of the world altogether — what would become of the world and of them? Suppose that Christian people could Christianize the world's anusements. How that would change the whole spirit of the world: In his own place each Christian of us may do his small endeavor toward that, I do not know a surer way by which wellmeaning people may turn those amusements which may be good or may be bad, according to conviction, into actions which

WILL NEVER BE GOOD, but will be bad under all circumstances than by avoiding those amusements by hav-ing nothing to do with them, by leaving them to the rogues, and thereby insinuating that all are rogues who join in them. That was a wise thing which Luther, or Wesley, or some other good man said, who objected to letting the devil have all the good music. We ought to object to letting the devil have anything which has in it any possibility of good, any possibility of honest pleasure. Much of the conventional attitude of the Christian toward the world is simply the attitude of unconditional surrender-surren-der to the devil. Dancing is surrendered to the devil; the theater is surrendered to the devil. What a grievous and unfortunate

when he declared that there enough real sins in this world already without manufacturing There is a cry in society to-day that the most needed social and religious reforms are those which concern the family. We need a reformation of household religion. One of the signs of this need is the fact that our

Charles Kingsly said a true and wise word

streets after dark are filled with boys fearning no good. Why are they not at home? I am afraid that the reason is that HOME IS NOT ATTRACTIVE. I am afraid that they seek the pleasure the streets because they have fathers and mothers who are forgetting the blessed influence of amusement. I tell you that if dancing and card-playing can make home pleasant and keep young boys and girls con of religion itself.

of religion itself.

No cause ever made progress by negations. It is not enough to put the evil away, you must put the good in. Indeed, you can never put the evil out, save by the expulsive infinence of the good. It is of small use to denounce any form of even questionable amusement. Denunciation never did any good to anybody. The only way to put down evil amusements is to encourage good ones. The only way to keep young people from amusing themselves in harmful ways is to provide helpful amusements. The only way to bring out the better element in those amusements, which may be either good or bad, is to make them Christian by the influence of Christians.

George Hodges.

OLD SUPERSTITIONS DEFIED.

Good Luck Follows the Number 13-Remarkable Coincidences.

Washington Post Various people have superstitions about coincidences. There is a newspaper man on the Row who swears by the number 13. There are 13 letters in his name. All his ancestors, so far as he knows, were blessed with the same number of letters. He was born on the 13th of the month, always buys a lottery ticket when the drawing comes on the 13th, starts his enterprises on Friday, and wears opals for luck. His friends cheerfully expect him to walk off a roof, get killed by lightning, or meet with some terrible accident, but he is blissfully se-

Speaking of the 13 scare, a party of newspaper men gave one of their number a dinner at an uptown hotel last year. About the time for sitting down it was discovered that there would be 13 at the table. of the men refused to stay. He left in order, he said, to break the hoodoo. So only 12 sat down. Within two months the timid one lost his position. And did the rest stay on? Oh, no. Of all that gallant 12 only two remained in the positions they then occupied.

To come back to coincidences. W. H.

Thorne says that he was walking up a street in Yokohama, back in the '50s, when he saw a man coming down the street whose appearance was familiar. A few seconds later he was shaking hands with his brother Charles, who he supposed was in New York was in New York.
Once the writer came into the Post local

room and started to speak of a gentleman whom he hadn't seen for ten years, and who was presumably 1,000 miles away, when a gentleman turned around, and lo, there was the object of his remarks.

HYPNOTISM IN DENTISTRY.

A Doctor Proposes the Substitution of Mesmerium for Augesthetics. The closing session of the State Dental Society was held in the Common Council chamber this morning. A paper was read by Dr. Charles L. Lang, of New York, on 'Mesmerism and its Therapeutical Appli-

cations." Its closing paragraphs were as follows: "As applied to dentistry, I believe that the chief use will be found in the suggestive effect in quieting neuralgia and the excess of pain due to fear of long operations, rather than in its anæsthetic effect. In order to produle anæsthesia profound enough to allow the extraction of a tooth, the subject must be an unusually sensitive one, and the danger and annoyance would be less from that ideal anesthetic for these short opera-tions than nitrous oxide. Like many other valuable remedies, as opium, alcohol, wine, quinine, etc., hypnotism must be handled by those trained to study its phenomena, and to guard against trouble each operator should never hypnotize a sub-ject without his formal consent, or the con-sent of those in authority over him. Never give to the hypnotized subject any other suggestion than those necessary for his case, unless he has given his consent pre-viously. Never induce sleep, except in the presence of a third party."

THE DUDE FIXED HIM.

n Dog Fight. In a crowded city street an ill-natured mastiff seized a little dog by the throat and began viciously shaking him. A crowd soon gathered. Words, blows and kicks failed to make the mastiff let go his hold. The little dog was howling piteously. At this juncture, when the lookers-on were wondering what to do, a young man, exquisitely dressed, came along. He at once mprehended the situation

"Leave him to me," he said. "I can manage him." There was an incredulous laugh from the crowd, and cries of, "The dude's here!"
"Thinks he's smart'n the rest on us!" "Let the dude fix him!" and the like.

The young man drew from his pocket

silver snuffbox, and held a pinch of snuff under the mastiff's nose.

The powder soon did its work. The big dog began sneezing vigorously, and of course had to open his mouth. He dropped the little dog and took to his heels, frightened and ashamed, his tail drooping like a whipped cur's.

The crowd broke into a round of applause; the young man smiled and went on

WHENCE COME THE FLIES.

The Decendants of One Insect Number Over 800,000 in a Few Months. From where do all the flies come? question is often asked, and seldom receives as satisfactory an answers as has been given by a cotemporary: The common fly lays more than 100 eggs, and the

illustrated. Suppose one fly commences "to multiply and replenish the earth" about June 1. June 15, if all lived, would give Suppose 75 of these are females, July 1 would give us, supposing no cruel wasp or other untoward circumstances to interfere, 11,250 flies. Suppose 5,625 of these are lemales, we might have July 15, 843,720 flies. For fear of bad dreams I will not calculate

geometrical progression. Here we see it

what might be by September 15. Silk Fiber Without Silk Worms It is reported that a process has been invented for extracting silk fiber from the mulberry leaf without the intervention of the silk worm. The quality of the silk obtained is declared to be equal to the best silk-worm product. It is an American invention, and if successful, as is anticipated, will work a revolution in the production of



Complainant-I ain't dead sure; but from th' feelin' I reckon he must'r used buck-

tented by the side of their parents, then dancing and card-playing are so far a part HOW TO KEEP COOL.

Shirley Dare Gives the Ladies Advice Upon Summer Apparel.

SOME COOL AND EASY GARMENTS.

New Yorkers Let Out Their Housecleaning On Contract.

"A centennial summer is predicted by wise ones who remember the general broil at Philadelphia in 1876. It is warm enough now to take a saving interest in light underclothes. It depends on how people dress and how they eat whether they suffer from

hot summers or not.

underwear of the season, beginning with the handknit silk jerseys in delicate shades of azure, cream, gobelin, lavender and Nile greens to suit the toilet, for the undervest shows through the delicate bengalines, and veilings of the dress. These pretty silk vests, with deep pointed fronts and squares of gnipure crochet, are worn over the corset, which to suit the compact style of corsage is next the skin or over a gauze vest, to keep the corset steels from rusting by perspiration. The silk slip of a jersey fits like a glove over the short lace stays, taking the place of the cambric chemise. Corsets are reduced to a minimum and comfort dawns for their wearers, who reduce their embonpoint by knitted webs and bands which stretch to support the bust and hips with few or no bones. The Greek corset worn with the Recamier dress is nothing more than a broad band of seamed knitting in lislethread, which holds the figure in shape like the classic ceinture. The nursing corset with knit front prevents the ruin of stays and good dresses in the nursery. These knit corsets are exceedingly

COOL AND EASY

fitting. Between you and me, I should not like to inquire how long a fashionable girl will wear a \$5 French corset without sending it to the cleaners, for washing, you know, spoils its perfect set, and French cleaning is expensive. With the smooth, slim French polonaise, the slenderest amount of closely-fitting underwear is imperative, but with a directoire dress one slips on a long chemise of white India washing silk, whose lower lace and ruffles serve as the first skirt. Fullness about the hips is forbidden, and the long opera stocking of silk or thread, reaching nearly to the hip, does away with other than the short silk or cambric drawers, mostly lace frills and insertion.

Ready-made silk underwear in white and

Ready-made silk underwear in white and tints is found in quantity in every shop of consequence at prices from \$3 for a chemise and \$7 for a nightgown. They are simply made in fine cluster tucks with feather stitching between and on the collars and cuffs. Ladies say they wear the silk as an economy, for it can be washed in a handbasin with a teaspoonful of ammonia in the water, well rinsed, wrung in a towel not to fray the silk, shaken to take the wrinkles out and dried to put on next morning. Half out and dried to put on next morning. Half the women at hotels wash their own silk jer-seys and slips in this way, and any fine day you can see the lace kerchiefs drying against the glass in the windows of the Fifth Ave-nue Hotel, after their owners have washed them, in the toilet basin, unwilling to trust them to laundresses. It is singular how often a laundress has a neighbor who keeps a calf or a puppy with an appetite for eat-ing up fine lace handkerchiefs and underwear. And then the silk things are so much healthier if worn without ironing, women say. Clara Kellogg, Emma Thursby and Emma Abbott, it is said, never have their linen, flaunels or silks ironed, because it disturbs the electrical state of the fabric next the skin. Silk nightgowns are worn by rheumatic people, and some go so far as to sleep on feather beds in silk ticking sheets and coverlet, to get the full benefit of the

A HOT WEATHER JERSEY.

Women of moderate tastes, however, are content with the jersey wear of baloriggan thread, in extra length, which does away with the chemise except for occasions, to the great relief of the family laundry. The beauty of this jersey wear is that it can be washed in five minutes at night, and one may have the luxury of absolutely fresh clothes every morning, which reduces the discomfort of summer quite bearable. The secret of keeping cool is dressing light and keeping clean. Women, as a rule, do not emulate the rich bachelors at the Windsor who change their shirts three to five times a day in summer, but no one is refined who can go without a change of clean clothes

daily, with the mercury at 85.

An improvement in corsets is the rubber cord lacing, an eighth of an inch thick, which renders the back more pliant and easy to the figure. The rubber lacing lasts well, unless one perspires very much, the acids of perspiration always attacking rub-ber. The little quilted skirts of silk crape flounced with lace, with a white moire bow on one knee are kept for the seaside where the fair wearers must guard against cramp and rheumatism, but for town the light striped silk and wool flannel skirt is worn with the long black surah petticoat flounced with Spanish lace or real guipure, which is not so extravagant as it seems, considering laundry bills for white skirts.

GRAY LINEN SKIRTS trimmed with torchon or gray handknit lace are very serviceable, and there are new mohair flannels in gray stripes from which the dust can be beaten, which are desirable for traveling. Skirts of honeycomb linen crash are very cool, clean and durable, and make the dress set well without starch or springs. This material is destined to become very popular for skirts and traveling dresses as well as for portieres and lounge covers for summer. When every breadth of woolen stuff or carpeting smells unutter-

ably in warm weather, the cool linen which resists dust and soil is most grateful to the senses, and linen will soon become the only furnishing tolerable.

Linen sheets are simply a necessity for sickness and summer, when they secure refreshing sleep by their coolness. Consider-ing that they outlast four pairs at least of cotton, one can hardly object to the cost of full width Union linen at 40 cents a yard, or the hemstitched sheets of pure linen at or the hemstitched sheets of pure lines at \$4 50 and \$5 the pair. Plain hemstitched pillow cases, of full size, ready laundried, are \$1 50 a pair and upward, and this bed lines is of good standard quality and very well made. Embroidered sheets, with daisies worked in lines flossover the quarter yard of overlay, are \$9 a pair and upward. Toilet covers in cutwork and Irish point or embroidered in the charming clusters of clematis or hydrangess, which are favorite designs, a little fine yellow floss introduced with the effect of gold thread, are \$12 to \$18.

These also come in old rose, lilac and pale blue embroideries.

Fine French gingham robes are em-Fine French gingham robes are em-broidered in guipure patterns or the French flower festoons, in white and shaded tints of the old pink, heliotrope, dark and light blues and maize color, which are the choice in washing materials. They cost from \$10 to \$18. French summer dimity is an old fabric, like a corded lawn with tiniest springs delicately fleeking the white ground.

single button at the throat and over the black lace dress generally worn for the promenade is exceedingly chic. White will be worn by women of all ages for morning and full dress, and the cream-white cashmere, 40 inches wide, at 45 cents a yard, is favorite fabric.

develops many improvements to lighten its burdens, the latest of which is the House Cleaning Company. The company contracts for the cleaning of an entire house by the job or day as suits the owner, kalsomining, cleaning paints, windows, chandeliers and laying carpets in the very best manner with business promptness and celerity. The work is done by colored men, neat and clever, highly recommended by the best sort of people. It is a great relief to hand the house over to these quiet dexterons men, who proceed to put everything in perfect order, shutting up one room at a time to work in, so that the whole house is cleaned step by step without the immates knowing it. The company furnish the best implements and materials, the men know how to nandle valuable mirrors and bric-a-bras, HOUSEKEEPING IN TOWN BEAUTY HINTS FOR MEN AND MAIDENS nandle valuable mirrors and bric-a-bras, and if they do ask \$100 for doing a house,

from attic to cellar, it is worth the money to be free of the care of looking after ordinary A very luxury of comfort is shown in the scrubwomen and carpet men.

Nor does the housekeeper's relief end here, in city ways. The best families leave the care of their carpets and hangings for the summer with upholstery firms, who send a man to collect the costly rugs, curtains and wool tapestries in one large government. wool tapestries in one large room given up to the purpose, where everything moths at-tack is treated with camphor and aromatics. The trusty man visits the house once a week all season to beat the curtains and brush the chairs and solas, to dislodge moths which do great mischief in corners just under the slip covers. Nothing less than such care will preserve houses from the ravages of insects, and tapestry panels costing not less than \$90 each and suits of furniture worth thousands demand costly care to keep them from loss.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS. UNFORTUNATE-"Will you kindly say if there is anything a young man can do to im-prove his complexion, when he is so situated that he must eat whatever is placed before him, or in other words, a young man away

him, or in other words, a young man away from home and subject to the tender mercies of a boarding house?"

The query is not in the least one for smiling over, indeed I am very glad to have the pleasure of answering it. Too many bright, ambitious lads fail in bealth and die every year, from want of good air and needed nutrition, too many mothers' hearts ache over the falling strength and worn looks of hopeful lads, and sisters see themselves worse than widowed in the wreck of brothers, tenderer, more devoted and truer than husbands are, for the question not to have a very serious side to it. If boarding house keepers could be made to feel that theirs is no mere money-making business, but that they are responsible for the lives and vigor of those who find homes with them, they might take new interest in their work and find new success in it. No hostess ought to grudge the trouble necessary to set healthy food before her people, to give them sound, homemade brown bread three times a day, and well cooked wheaten grits at least twice a day, matters which would change the tempers of billous. cooked wheaten grits at least twice a day, mat-ters which would change the tempers of billous dissatisfied boarders by the magic of health. dissatisfied boarders by the maric of health.

Let me advise the young man in this case to
pay his board promptly, make as little trouble
in the house as he knows how, and tell his
hostess he wants such and such food as a matter of health, and keep asking for it till he gets
it. Neither vegetables, fruit nor meats can
supply to clerks or business men the atrength
of wheat food, which contains phosphates for
the nerves, substance for the muscles, and secures the healthy scouring and carrying off of
waste, which is the secret of

A FINE COMPLEY

Personally the young man car

dow open nights, and toss back

when he rises to have his bed

never sleep in the same body clo-by day. He should not sleep in

the soiled sweaty clothes wor soiled socks and stong-smellin soiled socks and stong-smellin throw off their effluvia and pole hours. Hang the clothes next on nails in the sash of an oper a sound diet is secured, it is v erate doses of alternative r white mustard seed swallo-before breakfast, or as muci-before each meal is advisa' not to be had, one finds gre-ing parched wheat or wheat not to se had, one had greing parched wheat or wheat
This parched wheat is so regulating that every mot. her boy supplied with it, and as commonly as crackers. W. and salt stirged in while browning these grees are very relishing, and are the best food for sedentary people. The whole wheat should be nighted clean washed dried in the wind are picked clean, washed, dried in the wind and then in a moderate over, finishing with heat enough to brown without scorching. The grain must be spread thinly in a baking pan and stirred to frevent burning as coffee or corn is roasted. A coffee roaster would parch wheat nicely, and some women to turn an honest penny could not do a better thing than to furnish this in pound and half-pound packages, freshly parched daily or weekly to customers.

COLORS FOR RED-HEADED MEN. Is there any particular color or colors advis able for a young man to wear in ties or clothes who has a sandy complexion? Why is anyone

who has red hair or hair tending to that color

who has a sandy complexion? Why is anyone who has red hair or hair tending to that color looked down upon or made light of?

The only sensible reason for the disfavor shown sandy coloring is that it is highly sensitive to changes of temperature and health, and shows ill conditions by unpleasant changes of hue. Healthy sandy hair always tends to the ripe golden hue and clear complexion admired by all, and accompanying an acuteness of faculty found in no other organization. Sandy complexions must be careful about colors of dress. Pencil gray, russett, snuff brown or deep indigo suits should be chosen, with black ties dotted with white or minute color, felt or straw hats with wide black ribbon, and brown gloves. The right shades of beige or light brownish gray, with hats a little darker, often look well with sandy skins, and give the hair a less obnoxious shade, but the right colors can only be found by trial. Never try a bright blue or lavender tie, or the mahogany-hued gloves which retain a singular hold on masculine fancy. Light people should dress very quietly and carefully, avoiding all plaids and fancy fashions though a dark check or hairline gray is well worn by them. One last suggestion, if sandy-haired men wear the hair short and go bareheaded a good deal, it is very apt to either darken the color or brighten it to a golden shade. They should avoid sunburn and use vaseline on the face at night as scrupulously as a woman. A good sarsaparilla is an excelent syring medicine, but people seldom take enough of it. Rootbeer is as safe a form to take it in as any.

FIDELE AND OTHERS—Use no salve for bunions, but wet them with refined kerosone night and morning, letting the oil evaporate. A doctor advises pouring over the joint after the shoe is on. Fidele's other queries next week.

week.
Inquiries for the toilet mask are answered personally. Direct Shirley Dare, Tribune build-

personally. Directing, New York. SOME LITTLE MATTERS. NETTIE J .- Freshen surah by sponging with a teaspoonful of household ammonia to a quart of water, or with a dessert spoonful of vinegar to a pint of water, and press while damp with a moderately hot iron. The liquid must be weak or it is worse than useless.

D. H. H.—Buy a pint of taraxacum and man-

D. H. H.—Buy a pint of taraxacum and mandrake coating, \$1.25, which will answer for six months' use, omitting it every fourth week.

Liftoa and others—What will keep the skin from wrinkles when powder is daily used? Wash the powder carefully off at night, then apply the whitest vaseline, any good cold cream or pure sweet cream, letting it lie on the face and neck a few minutes and wiping gently with a soft cloth. Next morning wash the face with very hot water, which contracts the skin and wards off wrinkles.

Carrier FAY—To soften the complexion and prevent sunburn, use giverine diluted in this

Carrie Fay—To soften the complexion and prevent sunburn, use giveerine diluted in this way: Pour four spoonfuls of glycerine into a bottle, cut with one-fourth as much best cologne and fill with soft water. Bub a spoonful of this over the face before going out. A cosmetic excellent in effect but far from pleasant is butternilk and oatmeal flakes. Put a handfull of the flakes, which are steam cooked and swell rapidly, into a quart jar filled with acid buttermilk, suirring well. In ten minutes the mixture will be soft paste, which is spread on the face and hands and left to dry, when it if washed off with hot water. The virtues of this paste in whitening the akin, removing tan and freckles are highly praised by ladies who have tried it. The sourer the buttermilk the betteryas it is the acid which acts as a detergent for the skin.

Shirkly Dark.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.1

"See that lady putting on her gloves," said a Frenchman as he stood in front of Embroidered piques for children's frocks and ladies' morning dresses show the light French welt which does not shrink, and soft finish, from 50 cents to \$1 a yard. Fancy piques with tiny dots and cluster the streets of Paris. We would dot in color or white woven dots are 25 think of buttoning up our vests, or the Lafavette Hotel last evening. "Do French welt which does not shrink, and soft finish, from 50 cents to \$1 a yard. Fancy piques with stiny dots and cluster dots in color or white woven dots are 25 cents.

The white Brighton cutaway jacket, worn at English seaside resorts last year, is the jauntiest new fashion, eagerly caught up by women of taste. The cut is the simplest, of fine twilled fiannel or serge, fastened by a cent whom it pleased or displeased."